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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2016-65

Abamectin

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on commodities of Crop Subgroup 3-07B (Green Onions) and Crop Subgroup 13-07A (Caneberries) to the product label of Agri-Mek® 1.9% EC Insecticide/Miticide, containing technical grade abamectin, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Agri-Mek® 1.9% EC Insecticide/Miticide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 24551.

The evaluation of this abamectin application indicated that the end-use product has value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for abamectin is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRLs can be found in Appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

The proposed MRLs, to be added to the MRLs already established for abamectin, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Abamectin

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Abamectin	avermectin B_1 (a mixture of avermectins containing greater than or equal to 80% avermectin B_{1a} (5-*O*-demethyl avermectin A_{1a}) and less than or equal to 20% avermectin B_{1b} (5-*O*-demethyl-25-de(1-methylpropyl)-25-(1-methylethyl) avermectin A_{1a}) and its delta-8,9-isomer)	0.2	Caneberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07A)
		0.01	Green Onions (Crop Subgroup 3-07B)

[1] ppm = parts per million

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for abamectin in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs.[1] American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food and Feed website, by pesticide or commodity.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Caneberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07A)	0.2	0.20	Not Established
Green Onions (Crop Subgroup 3-07B)	0.01	0.08	Not Established

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for abamectin up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date that they are entered into the Maximum Residue Limits Database.

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed Maximum Residue Limits

Residue data for abamectin in raspberries, blackberries, and green onions were submitted to support the domestic use of Agri-Mek® 1.9% EC Insecticide/Miticide on Crop Subgroup 13-07A (Caneberries) and Crop Subgroup 3-07B (Green Onions).

Maximum Residue Limits

The recommendation for maximum residue limits (MRLs) for abamectin was based upon the submitted field trial data, and the guidance provided in the OECD MRL Calculator. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the proposed MRLs for Crop Subgroup 13-07A (Caneberries) and Crop Subgroup 3-07B (Green Onions).

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial and Processing Data Used to Support MRLs

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)[1]	Preharvest Interval (days)	Lowest Average Field Trial Residues (ppm)	Highest Average Field Trial Residues (ppm)	Experimental Processing Factor
Raspberries and Blackberries	Foliar/ 61.3–67.9	7	<0.0067	0.1184	Not applicable
Green onions	Foliar/ 88.5–91.5	6–8	<0.004	<0.0046	Not applicable

[1] g a.i./ha = grams of active ingredient per hectare

Following the review of all available data, MRLs as proposed in Table 1 are recommended to cover residues of abamectin. Residues of abamectin in these crop commodities at the proposed MRLs will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.